

Main aerial: Height, 40ft.; length overall, 100ft.

Short aerial: Height, 10ft.; length overall, 30ft.

Those who complain of 2YA's "mush" should try this; I am certain that if it works for them as it works for me, we shall never hear another growl!—"Q.R.K." (Wairoa, H.B.).

A Crystal Puzzle.

I AM a crystal-set owner, and have been getting very indifferent results. One night I would get good results and the next very poor. I tried several crystals and cat's whiskers with the same result. I then ran two earths, and although the volume was greater the results were just the same. I have a low outside aerial of about 30ft., two earths and a coil of about 120 turns on a bakelite former of about 2in. diameter. I get results about half way along the slider. The power lines run past the front door. Now here's the problem: I decided to get a permanent crystal, so I tried two carborundums and didn't get a sound, although I was getting good signals with the ordinary crystal. I then borrowed another good set with the same result. Next I borrowed an R.I. Varley semi-permanent crystal and got good results. I have now purchased one and still get good results. The carborundums were O.K. in their own sets.—G. Floyd (Petone).

[From the facts given it is difficult to diagnose the cause. The difficulty seems to be unique. Some crystals would seem to have freakish propensities. Has any reader had a like experience?—Ed.]

The King's English.

WE have received several further letters in appreciation of 2YA's announcer, but as the ground has been well covered, we would ask these belated correspondents to excuse our not publishing their letters.—Ed.

Reception on West Coast.

I FEEL I must write a few lines to tell you how much I appreciated the splendid all-night transmission of the Tasman flight. Although static was plentiful we heard nearly every report. Transmission was steady, with very little fading. It was a unique event in the history of radio. Since moving to this locality, which is on the sea coast, I find radio reception very much improved. Wellington is my best New Zealand station for clarity and steadiness. Can pick Aussie in the daytime here with a 5-valve neutrodyne set. Is there a station in Sydney with the call 2UW? I have had 2UE, but 2UW (that's what it sounds like) is about 20 or 25 metres below 2UE. [Yes, 2UW works on 267 metres with 500 watts.] The other night I logged station 3ZC, Christchurch. The station came through fairly clear, but not loud. Has 3ZC very powerful generator? He is good for an amateur. [3ZC's power is 250 watts—it is a trade station.]

Quite a number of your correspondents are commenting on your announcer's pronunciation of the English language. Allow me to state that the announcer's English is absolutely A1. I certainly agree with "Fernleaf" and a few others who are criticising "Homo's" letter. Let him try announcing—"Well-wisher" (Granity).

Children's Sessions

AT 1YA.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2.—Uncle George in charge and with him Cousin Dick playing his winning pieces at the competitions, also the Gramophone man with a record and story about the piece.

WEDNESDAY—Hello, Uncle Tom! Have any more songs to-night about the Radio Family and the Aunts and Uncles? You have! We're so glad, because we enjoy hearing them ever so much.

THURSDAY.—To-night Peter Pan will be assisted by a little band of cousins, singing and reciting. Letters and birthday greetings to be sent out too.

FRIDAY.—Nod and Aunt Jean will entertain the Radio Family with songs and stories. Listen for the sketch with all the animals in it, making strange noises.

Changes in Programmes.

I SHALL begin in the usual popular style and state my grievances. Twice lately selections from Sullivan's "Ruddigore" have figured on the programme of 2YA's orchestra. I think on both occasions "Lilac Time" was substituted. While everybody likes to hear Schubert's melodies, a number of "Sullivanites" were disappointed. I do not know whether laws of copyright prevented the performance of "Ruddigore"—or was it considered a danger to the Kellogg Pact?—but certainly "Gondoliers," "Mikado," etc., have been played. The orchestra has given us some splendid music. One could write its praises at some length. I do not play the piano or any other instrument, but two pieces I should like to add to the list of "request" numbers are these: (1) "Fingal's Cave" overture, composed by Mendelssohn when he was twenty-one; (2) the overture "Oberon," by Weber. A local picture theatre orchestra has played the former; about "Oberon"—well consider "The Flying Dutchman." When some vocalists realise it is best to sing something within their range there will be fewer "vocal villainies" and more programmes of the standard of that arranged for last Sunday evening. The pianist seemed to "rejoice greatly" in recognition of the fact. Some months ago Mr. Ray Kemp sang "Largo Al Factotum" from Rossini's "Barber of Seville"; I feel that the average listener does not remember the song now and would not mind its repetition.—P. H. Warren.

P.S.—For superior programmes see every Friday night at 2YA.

E.W.P. (Christchurch): We do not think it would be quite fair to the group of artists concerned to publish your strictures and comparisons—our rule is not to publish criticism of individuals, if possible. We are, however, passing your point of view on to the programme organiser concerned. It must be remembered that there are people who do like operatic selections, and they are entitled to their share of "time." The majority must concede something to the minority—assuming the operatic lovers to be in the minority, which is not proven.—Ed.

SATURDAY.—Oh, what fun! Cinderella has Uncle Big and Cousin small with her again. They will have jokes and fun for all, and will also have a group of big Maori boys with them who will sing and give hakas.

SUNDAY—Children's Song Service conducted by Uncle Leo, assisted by cousins from the Beresford Street Congregational Sunday School.

AT 2YA.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1.—Uncle Jeff and Aunt Gwen my dears. There will be stories and greetings, also pianoforte solos played by Cousin Joan. Cousin Gwen-da, whose singing you all enjoy, will be here too.

TUESDAY—Big Brother Jack will greet you this evening children. Cousin Dagmar will play the piano, and Cousin Zac will be there with his steel guitar.

THURSDAY.—Aunt Gwen and children from the Thorndon Normal School—standard 4 this time, little ones, under Miss Perry.—What a happy hour you will have listening to the chorus songs and recitations.

FRIDAY—Uncle Ernest will talk to the family to-night—there will be stories and greetings, and the children from Chilton St. James, Lower Hutt, are coming to give you of their best. These clever little children have an orchestra—so you will have a treat.

SATURDAY.—Uncle Toby and Aunt Gwen, assisted by pupils of Mrs. Martyn Williams who always recite for you so well. Greetings and stories, too, children, so we will have a merry little hour.

SUNDAY.—Uncle Ernest will conduct the children Song Service, assisted by St. Peter's Sunday School Choir under Mr. Sydney Short.

FROM 3YA.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1.—Come one, come all, and hear Scatterjoy tell about the origin and charm of "The Gipsy." The Radiant Three-oh will sing songs of the road, and Cousin Gladys is reciting and singing too. Greetings and best writer's verse and stories for young and old.

WEDNESDAY.—Mother Hubbard and Uncle Peter, with their never-ending store of good stories, and songs, and the "Three Old Maids of Lee" in dialogues and recitations.

THURSDAY.—To-night the "Cheerio Lads" from the Y.M.C.A. are helping Chuckle and Aunt Pat. So all get ready to join in a hearty and jolly community singing.

FRIDAY.—Big Brother to the fore to-night, and the winning House Choir from the Girls' High School will provide sweet singing. So get your earphones and loudspeakers on the go.

SATURDAY.—This is a night of surprises—so why should we tell

you just what is coming? Watch out and listen!!

SUNDAY.—Uncle David in charge of the song service, and hymn singing by the scholars from the St. Albans Presbyterian Sunday School.

AT 4YA.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2.—Jack, Ray and Jocelyn are entertaining the family to-night with piano, violin, and songs. And Brother Bill has some stories. What are they about? Well, the best kind of story is the one you know nothing about until it is told, so you'd better wait and see. Birthdays, and the Radio Postie as usual.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Joyce plays the piano, Arthur the violin, Noel sings a song, and Bruce gives an excellent recitation. The Family, of course, listens, and, if very very good, goes a trip on the Time Scooter. How would you like to have lived among the sturdy folk who first came and colonised New Zealand? It had Robinson Crusoe beaten easily. Well, we might pull the little green handle on the Scooter and go back sixty years, and live a little while with the early settlers. The Radio Postie will be there, of course.

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